

DIRTY SECRETS:

What's Hiding in Your Cleaning Products?



WVE

Women's Voices For The Earth

Cleaning product companies aren't required to disclose the ingredients they use in their products, and what they're keeping secret from you could be hazardous to your health. Women's Voices for the Earth (WVE) commissioned an independent laboratory to test twenty popular cleaning products for hidden toxic chemicals from five top companies: Clorox, Procter & Gamble, Reckitt Benckiser, SC Johnson and Son, and Sunshine Makers (Simple Green). **Test results revealed reproductive toxins, carcinogens, hormone disruptors, and allergens, and none of these chemicals were listed on the product label.**

Consumers deserve to know what chemicals they are being exposed to, so that they can easily avoid products that may cause allergic reactions or serious long-term health impacts like cancer, birth defects, or pregnancy complications. WVE is calling on Congress to pass new federal legislation that requires cleaning product manufacturers to disclose all the ingredients they use in their products directly on the product label.

WHAT GOVERNMENT CAN DO:

- **The Cleaning Product Right to Know Act** has been introduced in Congress and will require household cleaning products to bear a label including a full list of product ingredients.
- Go to www.womensvoices.org to ask your legislators to support the Cleaning Product Right to Know Act!

WHAT CLEANING PRODUCT COMPANIES CAN DO:

- Companies should disclose all ingredients, including allergens, fragrance components and expected or detected contaminants, directly on the product label, where it helps you the most.
- Companies should reformulate their products to eliminate chemicals of concern, such as phthalates and synthetic musks, and replace them with safer alternatives.
- Companies should ensure that their "fragrance-free" products are truly free of fragrance compounds.
- Companies should improve the quality control of their ingredient supply to ensure that harmful contaminants are not present in their products, and take steps to remove contaminants that are present.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- **Make your own cleaning products!** Until you know what's in the products you buy off the shelf, you can mix your own with safe ingredients like vinegar and baking soda. Visit www.womensvoices.org for recipes and tips.
- **If you are concerned about a cleaning product that you currently use (and like), call the company's toll-free number and inquire about the problem ingredients discussed in this report. Ask the manufacturer to disclose all of their fragrance ingredients and any contaminants, and ask them to remove any phthalates, musks and toxic contaminants from their products.**
- **Support the work of Women's Voices for the Earth! Sign up for the WVE Action Network at www.womensvoices.org to learn more about how you can support policies that protect us from toxic chemical exposure.**

LEARN MORE!

Read the full report: "*Dirty Secrets: What's Hiding in Your Cleaning Products?*" available at www.womensvoices.org

Dirty Secrets Testing Results

Product Name	Chemical Detected	Health Concern*	Product Name	Chemical Detected	Health Concern*
Clorox			SC Johnson & Son		
Clorox Green Works Natural Glass & Surface Cleaner Original Scent	Limonene	Allergies	Glade Plug In Scented Oil Hawaiian Breeze	Limonene Linalool Eugenol	Allergies Allergies Allergies
Green Works Natural Laundry Detergent Original Scent	Limonene DL-Citronellol	Allergies Allergies	Glade Tough Odor Solutions w/Oust Refreshing Citrus Air Sanitizer	Dibutyl Phthalate (DBP) Bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) Diethyl phthalate (DEP) Butyl benzyl Phthalate (BBP) Galaxolide Limonene Linalool	Reproductive harm, hormone disruption, neurodevelopment problems Reproductive harm, hormone disruption, neurodevelopment problems Reproductive harm, hormone disruption Reproductive harm, hormone disruption Hormone disruption Allergies Allergies
Clorox Clean-Up Cleaner with Bleach	Chloroform Carbon tetrachloride Limonene	Cancer Cancer Allergies	Pledge Furniture Spray Dust & Allergen Outdoor Fresh	Limonene DL-Citronellol	Allergies Allergies
Original Pine-Sol	Toluene Limonene	Pregnancy complications Allergies	Pledge Multi-Surface Everyday Cleaner Fragrance Free Hypoallergenic	None	N/A
Procter & Gamble			Sunshine Makers		
Tide Original Scent	1,4-dioxane Limonene	Cancer Allergies	Simple Green All-Purpose Cleaner Non-Toxic Biodegradable	Toluene Limonene	Pregnancy complications Allergies
Tide Free & Gentle (fragrance free)	1,4-dioxane Limonene	Cancer Allergies	Simple Green Naturals Multi-Surface Care Lemon Verbena	Bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) 1,4-dioxane Limonene Linalool	Reproductive harm, hormone disruption, neurodevelopment problems Cancer Allergies Allergies
Bounce with Febreze Fresh Scent Spring & Renewal	Limonene DL-Citronellol Linalool	Allergies Allergies Allergies			
Bounce Free & Sensitive (fragrance free)	Limonene Linalool 1,4-dioxane	Allergies Allergies Cancer			
Febreze Air Effects Spring & Renewal	Limonene Linalool Galaxolide	Allergies Allergies Hormone disruption			
Reckitt Benckiser					
Lysol Disinfectant Spray Spring Waterfall	Limonene DL-Citronellol Eugenol	Allergies Allergies Allergies			
Lysol Neutra Air Fabric Mist Crisp Linen	Limonene Linalool	Allergies Allergies Allergies			
Air Wick Scented Oil Lavender & Chamomile	Linalool Eugenol Coumarin	Allergies Allergies Allergies			
Air Wick Fresh Waters Air Freshener	Limonene Linalool	Allergies Allergies			

Notes:

* Health concerns listed are those which have been determined in the scientific literature through exposure to the chemical listed, by at least one route of exposure: inhalation, ingestion or skin absorption.

In most cases, research has never been conducted to determine if exposure to the chemical through use of the cleaning product is associated with the health outcome.

